

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2013 6:00 p.m.  
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL  
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

**MINUTES**

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Brad Rudich, Treasurer Lori Babinski, Trustee Jonathan Phillips and Trustee Roy McIlwaine.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Public Comment:** Wester opened public comment by having a report from County Commissioner Dean Kapenga. Kapenga commented on the Harbor Authority, Wetland Credits, M40-M89 Corridor traffic controls, and Allegan County Narrowband project.

State Police Officer Jeff Olney from the Saugatuck post reported graduates from the Academy have been training. The Saugatuck post will have 8 total officers.

Public Comment: Larry Dickie, Old Allegan Rd., commented on fracking. Dickie suggested that Wester attend the Allegan County Supervisors meeting, where a fracking discussion would take place.

- A. **Approval of Agenda:** Wester asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, or changes to the consent agenda. McIlwaine requested discussion on Legal Committee added to unfinished business. Wester requested under New Business to add discussion on DSL. Correspondence added. Wester requested a breakdown of MERS and Priority Checks. Hearing no further changes, Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.
- B. Accounts Payable,
  - i. ALLEGAN COUNT TREASURER through WESTSHORE INSPECTIONS  
Total to be paid \$110,727.21
  - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited  
(Check register attached)
- C. Payroll (check register attached)
- D. Approval of Minutes
  - i. January 6, 2013 Regular Board Meeting

**Motion by Wester was seconded by Phillips to approve the agenda as amended.** Carried 5 to 0.

**Correspondence:**

- A. Scholten and Fant Billing. Discussion on billing rate for 2013. Wester suggested a ceiling on \$130 hourly rate. Rudich suggested asking for the \$100 rate again. Motion to table until next meeting made by McIlwaine, second by Wester. Wester requested Rudich to gather previous years billing. Carried 5-0.
- B. Kathy Roper letter requesting Township to hire a different attorney.

**Unfinished Business:**

- A. STFD Resolution 2013-3 to adopt the previously approved Fire Bylaws. Roll call vote, Babinski, Phillips, Wester, McIlwaine, and Rudich vote yes. None opposed.

- B. Saugatuck Township Manager search discussion. Wester and McIlwaine will serve on manager search commission.
- C. Fracking discussion. Recommendation to have planning commission look into ordinance to possibly regulate.
- D. Legal counsel discussion. McIlwaine explained that the Legal Committee was deadlocked on new legal counsel request. McIlwaine made a motion to authorize expend \$5,000 from the legal fund for counsel for an opinion on interpretation of the 35% R3-b open space as it relates to Singapore Dunes LLC, phase 1 approval and the appeal by the appellants, unless the appeal has no standing. Discussion about the ZBA appeal and time table for a making a decision. Motion withdrawn. Legal counsel discussion tabled until next meeting.

**New Business:**

- A. Road Project, additional mowing contract. Phillips explained the contract was \$1,300 for additional mowing in summer. Motion to approve by Wester, second by Phillips. Motion passed 5-0.
- B. Budget Amendments, and Aaron Sheridan salary. Sheridan's salary increase was tabled until Manager Quade was present. Motion to table increase was made by Wester, with retroactive increase in pay once Manager explained the budget facts. Second by McIlwaine. Motion passed 5-0. Budget Amendments discussion with Aaron Sheridan. Motion made to approve budget amendments made by Wester, seconded by Rudich. Motion passed 5-0.
- C. Cemetery purchase. Discussion with Aaron Sheridan about purchase back Cemetery plots. Motion to authorize Sheridan to transmit transfer certificate made by McIlwaine, supported by Wester. Passed 5-0.
- D. Verizon DSL discussion. Phillips stated that Verizon/Frontier will have a coverage map available soon. Map will be made available on the township website when available.

**Committee Reports:**

- A. Planning Commission. Rudich reported that the Joint Planning Committee met to update the Tri-community plan.
- B. Road Commission. Phillips stated that mowing was covered previously.
- C. Interurban. Babinski reported. Discussion on extended hours in season.
- D. Fire Board. Rudich reported that a search for a new fire chief was starting and expected to last 3 months. Progress was being made in training the fire board and getting job descriptions made.
- E. Supervisor's Report. Wester stated that the Harbor Commission asked the township to be involved with the commission. Wester stated that it was without any monetary obligation, Discussion on who would serve as liaison to the Harbor Commission. Suggestion to ask previous liaison Dave Engel to serve as liaison. Advertising for Harbor Commission liaison would be placed with ZBA Alternate ad.

**Public Comment:** Wester opened the meeting to public comment. R J. Peterson of Riverside Dr. commented on Harbor Authority and suggested Township become a full member. Jane Dickie of Old Allegan Rd. commented on Harbor Authority and requested new ZBA counsel. Larry Dickie of Old Allegan Rd. commented on ZBA independent legal sources and fracking concerns at the State level. State Representative Bob Genetski reported on State Budget changes and school funding. Rep. Genetski also reported on river dredging and request to make jails exempt from sales tax as well as possible Medicare changes. Rep. Genetski responded to fracking concerns and possible bidding changes to road projects. Hearing no further comments, **Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned.** Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

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Brad Rudich, Clerk

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Date